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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/944,071	09/04/2001	Masanobu Asaoka	35.C15758	1151
5514	7590	11/25/2005	EXAMINER	
FITZPATRICK CELLA HARPER & SCINTO 30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA NEW YORK, NY 10112			SCHWARTZ, PAMELA R	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1774	

DATE MAILED: 11/25/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/944,071	ASAOKA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Pamela R. Schwartz	1774	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on September 15, 2005.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-13, 15 and 18-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-12 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 13, 15 and 18-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) 1-13, 15 and 18-23 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

1. Claims 13, 15, 18 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Asano et al. (6,511,736) in view of any of JP 10129112, Darsillo et al (WO 01/25534), and Hirose et al. (EP 0,732,219) for reasons of record and for reasons given below.
2. Claims 13 and 19-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Asano et al. (6,511,736) in view of any of JP 10129112, Darsillo et al (WO 01/25534), and Hirose et al. (EP 0,732,219) as applied to claim 13 above, and further in view of either one of Hosoi et al. (6,200,670) or Ikezawa et al. (5,759,673) for reasons of record and for reasons given below.
3. Claims 13 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Asano et al. (6,511,736) in view of any of JP 10129112, Darsillo et al (WO 01/25534), and Hirose et al. (EP 0,732,219) as applied to claim 13 above, and further in view of Tomizawa et al. (5,985,425) for reasons of record and for reasons given below.
4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-13, 15 and 18-23 have been fully considered but are not persuasive. With respect to the primary reference, applicants' argue that Asano et al. teaches a multi-layered ink fixing layer while their invention can achieve results with a single layer structure. However, applicants' claimed structure is not limited to a single ink fixing layer. With respect to the particle diameter and percentage of particles below one micron, Asano et al. disclose at col. 10, lines 37-42 that secondary particles should be controlled to most preferably be 20 to 100 nm. This preferred average range teaches toward 80% of the particles being less than 1 micron in diameter and to an average particle diameter of less than 300 nm. It is unclear why

applicants believe that Asano et al. does not teach or suggest the claimed values to one of ordinary skill in the art.

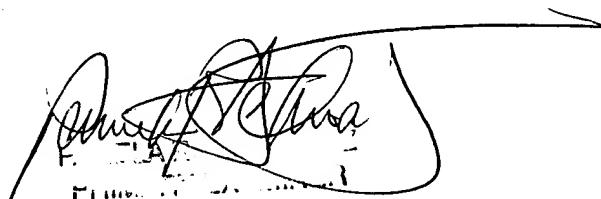
5. Finally, it is noted that the Foreign Official Letter was received on November 4, 2005 and has been made part of the record.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Pamela Schwartz whose telephone number is (571) 272-1528.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rena Dye, can be reached on (571) 272-3186. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

PRSchwartz
November 21, 2005

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pamela Schwartz", is written over a stylized, swooping line. Below the signature, the name "Pamela Schwartz" is printed in a smaller, standard font.